

There has been a lot of discussion of late concerning threats to the Amateur bands. I agree that Morse Code requirements may be due for replacement, but with some other form of "testing" or measurement of the ability to handle the privilege of an HF license.

Testing on a current digital mode, a refresher test on rules and regulations, SOMETHING to allow only those who are serious about upholding the standards of good operation that have all but disappeared from the VHF and up bands....

It is imperative that the No-Code Tech Entry level beginners be required to show that they have some skill beyond an elementary school science class understanding of the involved concepts. Also knowledge of and intention to follow the FCC rules regarding amateur operation MUST be required before being handed an HF license.

VHF is a "local" line of site band, HF access affect the entire world. Listen to our 2 meter repeater for a week and you will be horrified to think what other countries would be subjected to if it was to be on an HF band.

I want nothing more than to have people advance beyond the entry level, but the upgrading of Tech. class operators to General with no further testing is the greatest threat to amateur HF bands of my lifetime. We MUST NOT let this happen. Require some sort of incentive to ensure that Amateur radio is not exterminated by the wave that would follow approval of this tragic proposal.